

LAUREL-MAGNOLIA  
*Magnolia virginiana*

Located in swamps and low woods in eastern Massachusetts, Long Island, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and south. Also known as Sweet-, Swamp- or White-Bay, Swamp- or White-laurel, Swamp-Magnolia and others.

A large shrub or small tree; up to 10 m high. Leaf-buds hairy; leaves leathery, oval to broadly lance-shaped, round- or blunt-tipped, dark green above, whitish but smooth below; evergreen in the south but deciduous in the northern part of the range; 8 to 15 cm long. Flowers are slightly ball-like, white, turning to pale brown, very fragrant; petals roundish egg-shaped with the narrow part near the flower center, 3 to 5 cm long; blooming from May to July. The fruiting cone is oblong, 3 to 5 cm long, becoming pink when ripe, ripening in autumn when the seeds hang by long threads from the cone.



Though of low value, the seeds are eaten by song birds and small mammals. The leaves are browsed by deer and are used for nest building by some species of birds.



Notes: